

# **ECE 486: Control Systems**

## **Lecture 10A: Dominant Pole Approximation**

# Dominant-Pole Approximation

---

The **dominant poles** of a higher-order system are the slowest poles (largest time constant).

We can often approximate a higher-order system by a:

1. First-order approximation if the dominant pole is real
2. Second-order approximation if the dominant pole(s) are a complex pair.

The approximation is accurate if the dominant pole(s) are significantly slower than the remaining poles.

(Dominant pole time constant is 5x larger than other poles)

# Problem 1

---

For each system:

- Construct a first-order or second-order approximation from the dominant pole.
- Do you expect the dominant pole approximation to be accurate?

For system A: Roughly sketch the unit step response of the dominant pole approximation. Note the final time, settling time, and overshoot (if underdamped).

$$G_A(s) = \frac{5000}{(s+2)(s+20)(s^2+20s+500)}$$

$$G_B(s) = \frac{24}{(s+1)(s+2)^2(s+3)}$$

# Solution 1A

- Construct a first-order or second-order approximation from the dominant pole.
- Do you expect the dominant pole approximation to be accurate?
- Roughly sketch the unit step response of the dominant pole approximation. Note the final time, settling time, and overshoot (if underdamped).

$$G_A(s) = \frac{5000}{(s+2)(s+20)(s^2+20s+500)}$$

p < 1 → -Pole (Real)  
2Poles

$s = \boxed{-2}, \quad \underline{-20}, \quad \boxed{-10 \pm 20j}$   
 Dominant Pole       $\tau = \frac{1}{2} \text{ sec}$

$$G_A(0) = \frac{5000}{2 \cdot 20 \cdot 500} = \boxed{\frac{1}{4}}$$

$$\hat{G} = \frac{b_0}{s+2}$$

$$\hat{G} = \frac{0.5}{s+2}$$

$$G(0) = \frac{1}{4}$$

$$\frac{1}{4} = \hat{G}(0) = \frac{b_0}{2}$$

$$b_0 = \frac{2}{4} = \frac{1}{2}$$

Accurate because  $-2$  is much slower than  $-10 \pm 20j$

# Solution 1B

- Construct a first-order or second-order approximation from the dominant pole.
- Do you expect the dominant pole approximation to be accurate?

$$\underline{G_B(s)} = \frac{24}{(s+1)(s+2)^2(s+3)}$$

$$G_B(\omega) = \frac{24}{2^2 \cdot 3} = 2$$

$$s = -1, -2, -2, -3$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{2em}}$   
 slowest, dominant

$$\hat{G} = \frac{2}{s+1}$$

Root approximation

$$-1, -2, -2, -3$$

are all of similar  
time scale

$$G_C(s) = \frac{15}{(s+1)^2(s+10)}$$

$$s = -1, -1, -10$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{2em}}$   
 Dominant

$$\hat{G} = \frac{b_0}{(s+1)^2}$$

$$y_p + c_1 e^{-t} + c_2 t e^{-t}$$

# **ECE 486: Control Systems**

## Lecture 10B: Integrator Anti-windup

# Key Takeaways

---

This lecture describes impact of actuator saturation and rate limits. These limits:

- Cause slower speed of response and
- Can lead to overshoot and oscillations if the controller does not properly account for the limits.

Anti-windup is one method to reduce the effect of saturation.

- It will prevent overshoot and oscillations.
- However, it does not change the slower speed of response which is a physical limit of the actuators.

## Problem 2

---

Consider the following plant and PI controller:

$$\dot{y}(t) + 4y(t) = 2u(t) \quad u(t) = 5e(t) + 20 \int_0^t e(\tau) d\tau$$

- A) What is the ODE that models the closed-loop from  $r$  to  $y$ ?
- B) The actuator saturates at  $u \in [-3, +3]$ . Do you expect saturation to cause any issues if the reference commands are in the range  $r \in [-1, +1]$ ? If yes, then how might you alleviate the issue?
- C) Suppose instead that the references are in the range  $r \in [-10, +10]$ . Can any controller (not just the PI controller above) achieve good reference tracking with this actuator? If not, then how would you re-select the actuator?



# Solution 2A

Consider the following plant and PI controller:

$$\dot{y}(t) + 4y(t) = 2u(t) \quad u(t) = 5e(t) + 20 \int_0^t e(\tau) d\tau$$

A) What is the ODE that models the closed-loop from  $r$  to  $y$ ?

$$\dot{y} + 4y = 2\dot{u} = 2 \left[ \underbrace{5\dot{e}}_{\dot{r}-\dot{y}} + 20e \right]$$

$$\ddot{y} + (4+10)\dot{y} + 40y = 10\dot{r} + 40r$$

$$T_{r \rightarrow y}(s) = \frac{10s + 40}{s^2 + 14s + 40}$$

# Solution 2B

Consider the following plant and PI controller:

$$\dot{y}(t) + 4y(t) = 2u(t)$$

$$u(t) = 5e(t) + 20 \int_0^t e(\tau) d\tau$$

B) The actuator saturates at  $u \in [-3, +3]$ . Do you expect saturation to cause any issues if the reference commands are in the range  $r \in [-1, +1]$ ? If yes, then how might you alleviate the issue?

$$u = 5e + 20z$$

$$\dot{z} = e \rightarrow z = \int_0^t e(\tau) d\tau$$

$$\dot{z} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } u > 3 \text{ and } e > 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } u < -3 \\ & \text{and } e \leq 0 \\ e & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

$$u(0) = 5 \left( \underbrace{r(0)}_1 - \underbrace{y(0)}_0 \right) + 20 \underbrace{\int_0^0 e(\tau) d\tau}_{=0}$$

$$u(0) = 5$$

Clamping / Anti-windup

Turn off integration when  $|u| > 3$   
(and error makes  $|u|$  grow more)

# Solution 2C

Consider the following plant and PI controller:

$$\dot{y}(t) + 4y(t) = 2u(t)$$

$$u(t) = 5e(t) + 20 \int_0^t e(\tau) d\tau$$

C) Suppose instead that the references are in the range  $r \in [-10, +10]$ . Can any controller (not just the PI controller above) achieve good reference tracking with this actuator? If not, then how would you re-select the actuator?

In steady-state

$$\bar{y} = \frac{1}{1} \bar{u}$$

$$G(s) = \frac{2}{s+4}$$

$$G(0) = \frac{2}{4} = \frac{1}{2} \rightarrow$$

$$\bar{y} = \underline{G(0)} \bar{u} = \frac{1}{2} \cdot 3 = 1.5 \leftarrow$$

$$u \in [-3, 3]$$

$$4 \bar{y} = 2 \bar{u} = 2 \cdot 3 = 6$$
$$\bar{y} = \frac{6}{4} = 1.5$$

Embedded Control

# **ECE 486: Control Systems**

## **Lecture 10C: Control Law Implementation**

# Key Takeaways

---

It is common to implement controllers on a microprocessor.

This lecture discusses some of the details associated with this implementation:

- Sample a measurement at specific (discrete) time intervals
- Update the control input  $u$  at each sample time.
- Hold the control input  $u$  constant until the next update.

The update equation is chosen to approximate the properties of the designed (ODE) controller. The update equation can be implemented on a microprocessor with a few lines of code.

## Problem 3

---

Consider the following plant and PI controller:

$$2\dot{y}(t) + 6y(t) = 8u(t) \quad u(t) = 2.5 e(t) + 9 \int_0^t e(\tau) d\tau$$

A) What sampling time  $\Delta t$  would you recommend for a discrete-time implementation?

B) The value of  $u(t)$  at  $t=\Delta t$  is:

$$u(\Delta t) = 2.5 e(\Delta t) + 9 \int_0^{\Delta t} e(\tau) d\tau \quad \leftarrow$$

Approximate  $u_1 := u(\Delta t)$  in terms  $e_0 := e(0)$  and  $e_1 := e(\Delta t)$ .

C) The computations in the discrete-time update are not instantaneous and require some time. How can this be modeled?

# Solution 3A

$$2\ddot{y}(t) + 6\dot{y}(t) = 8u(t)$$

$$u(t) = 2.5e(t) + 9 \int_0^t e(\tau) d\tau$$

A) What sampling time  $\Delta t$  would you recommend for a discrete-time implementation?

$$2\ddot{y} + 6\dot{y} = 8\dot{u} = 8[2.5(\dot{r}-\dot{y}) + 9(r-y)]$$

$$\rightarrow 2\ddot{y} + \underbrace{[6+20]}_{26}\dot{y} + 72y = 20\dot{r} + 72r$$

$$T(r \rightarrow y|s) = \frac{20s + 72}{2s^2 + 26s + 72}$$

$$s_{1,2} = -4, -9 \text{ rad/sec} \leftarrow$$

$$\tau_{1,2} = 1/4, 1/9 \text{ sec} \leftarrow$$

$$\Delta t = \frac{1/4}{10} = 1/40 \text{ sec} \quad X$$

$$\Delta t = 1/4/10 \approx 1/40 \text{ sec} \approx 1/100 \text{ sec} = 10 \text{ msec}$$

# Solution 3B

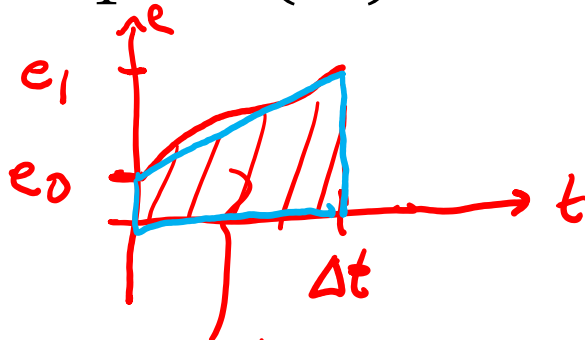
$$2\dot{y}(t) + 6y(t) = 8u(t)$$

$$u(t) = 2.5 e(t) + 9 \int_0^t e(\tau) d\tau$$

B) The value of  $u(t)$  at  $t=\Delta t$  is:

$$u(\Delta t) = 2.5 e(\Delta t) + 9 \int_0^{\Delta t} e(\tau) d\tau$$

Approximate  $u_1 := u(\Delta t)$  in terms  $e_0 := e(0)$  and  $e_1 := e(\Delta t)$ .



$$\int_0^{\Delta t} e(\tau) d\tau \approx \frac{1}{2} (e_0 + e_1) \cdot \Delta t$$

$$u_1 = 2.5 e_1 + 9 \left[ \frac{1}{2} (e_0 + e_1) \cdot \Delta t \right]$$

$$u_2 = 2.5 e_2 + 9 \left[ \frac{1}{2} (e_1 + e_2) \cdot \Delta t \right]$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_e$ 
 $\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_e$

$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{\text{memory}}$ 
 $\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{\text{memory}}$



# Solution 3C

$$2\dot{y}(t) + 6y(t) = 8u(t)$$

$$u(t) = 2.5e(t) + 9 \int_0^t e(\tau) d\tau$$

C) The computations in the discrete-time update are not instantaneous and require some time. How can this be modeled?

